

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on March 14, 2003, claims 1-9 and 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Herman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,353) ("Herman"); and claim 10 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The foregoing objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-15 are pending in the subject application, of which claims 1 and 13-15 are independent claims.

Foreign Priority:

The Examiner has not yet acknowledged the Applicant's claim for foreign priority and submission of a certified copy of the foreign priority document, which were filed on December 29, 2000. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge the same.

Amendments to the Claims:

New independent claim 16 is added herein; claims 1, 3, and 9-12 are amended herein to remove "step-plus-function"-type language; claims 13-15 are amended herein to correct the claim language; claims 1, 5-8, 10-11, and 13-15 are amended herein to correct grammatical errors; and claims 1 and 3-15 are amended herein to change the term "receipt number" to "serial number" and the term "transaction number" to "identification code." Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter.

Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 3-15 may be found in the Specification at page 11, line 25 (transaction number corresponds to cart ID), page 5, lines 13-15 and page 12, line 1 (cart ID corresponds to identification code), and page 12, lines 2-3 (receipt number corresponds to serial number).

Amendments to the Figures:

Figure 2 is amended herein to correct a typographical error. Specifically, main program file 13 is amended to be main program file 14, and HTML file 14 is amended to be HTML file 13 (See p. 10, line 26 to p. 11, line 7 of the Specification).

Objections to the Claims:

New independent claim 16 is added herein, rewriting dependent claim 10 in independent form. Dependent claim 10 remains in the application because independent claim 1 from which it depends and dependent claim 10 itself are both amended herein. New independent claim 16 should be allowable.

Rejections of the Claims:

Herman discusses providing intelligent receipts, called Smart Receipts, that electronically document a transaction between two parties (Herman, Abstract).

In contrast, the term “receipt information” in independent claims 1 and 13-15 comprises information that is assigned when an order is received. Herman uses the term “receipt” to refer to the evidence of a completed transaction. The difference is that the receipt in Herman is issued after a transaction is complete, whereas the receipt information in the present invention is issued while the transaction is in progress, e.g., when an order is received.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 13-15 are patentably distinguishable over Herman. In addition, dependent claims 2-12 are allowable based in part on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of claims 1 and 13-15.

Withdrawal of the foregoing objections and rejections is respectfully requested.

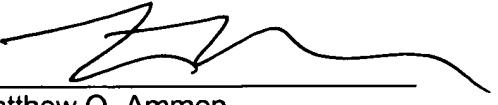
There being no further objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned

to attend to these matters. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 7-11-2003

By: 
Matthew Q. Ammon
Registration No. 50,346

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 434-1500